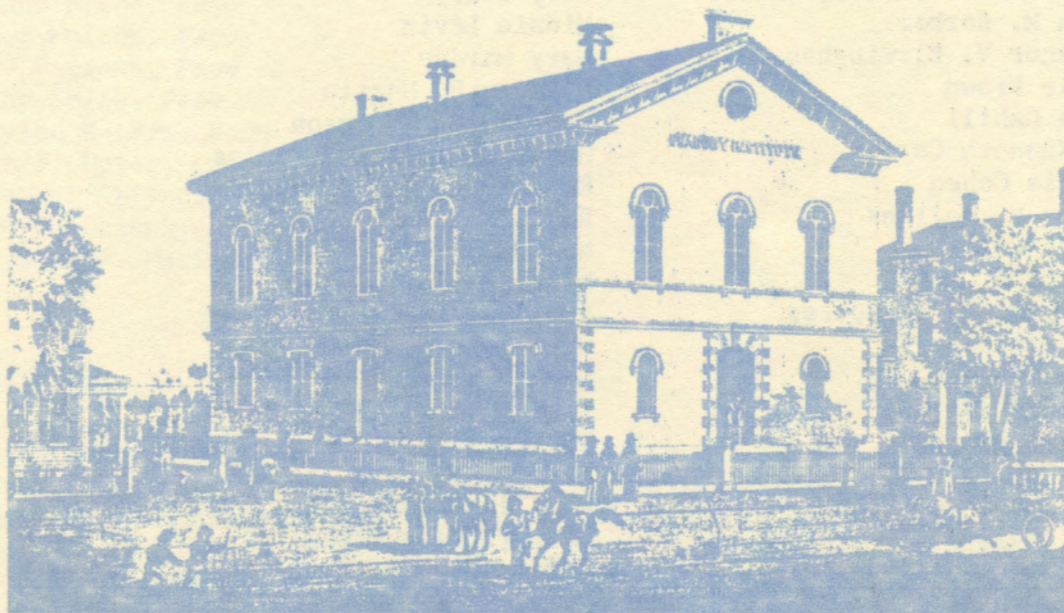


PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY



Peabody Institute Library as it appeared in 1854

125TH ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1976

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John L. Birmingham, *Pres.*
James P. Boyle
John G. Cahill
Albert J. Cohen
Patrick G. Collins
Barry A. Feinstein

°Elizabeth A. Hosman, *Sec.* 1976
Joseph H. Hughes, *Sec.* 1975
*George H. Hunter
Arnold J. Levin, *Treas.*
Francis J. Lyons
Walter J. Parsons
°John E. Walsh

LYCEUM AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Sophie H. Ankeles
Stacia Archis
Rev. Francis Andy
Rev. Robert Barber, *Chair.*
Luth M. Barber
Eleanor V. Birmingham
Marie Brown
Rita Cahill
A. Kenneth Carey
Marcia Cohen
Lilly V. Collins
Norma Collins
Mathleen Conway
Rev. Andrew De Motzes
Katherine Doyle
Paul H. Duff, Jr.
Mina H. Fabiano
Sharon Fermon
Ann F. Flynn
Anna Golemba
Burt Gordon
David J. Hallinan
Rev. Daniel A. Hart
J. Henry Higgins

Dr. Robert S. Ireland
Floris Katz
Paul Klibansky
Mary Leary
Minnie Levin
Mary Marden
Carlene F. Martin
Nathan F. Masterson
Mayor Nicholas Mavroules
Rep. Peter C. McCarthy
Rep. John E. Murphy, Jr.
Marie Newhall
Elizabeth O'Connor
Rabbi Burton Padoll
Mary Pender
David Phillips
Msgr. Mimie B. Pitaro
Helen Quinn
Frances Rigol
Rev. John Serino
Anne Tiffany, *Treas.*
Carolyn L. Wahtera
Henry J. Waters
Natalie Winer, *Sec.*

°Term began January 1976

*Term expired December 1975

LIBRARY STAFF

Thomas F. Scully, *Director*
Helen I. Pappas, *Assistant Director*
Esther L. Johnson, *Childrens' Librarian*
Richard S. Stromer, *Reference Librarian*
Dana J. Rizzotti, *Technical Services Librarian*
Adelaide A. Klein, *Library Assistant*
Irene Y. Bouras, *Clerk*
Abina L. Chase, *Clerk*
Catherine T. Travalini, *Clerk (CETA)*
Kim Bresnahan, *Senior Page*
Arete Collins, *Senior Page*
JoAnne Kwiecinski, *Senior Page*
Joanne Breen, *Page*
Peter Holton, *Page*
Mary Parsons, *Page*
Kathy Smith, *Page*
Marylou Waters, *Page*
John F. Upton, *Custodian*
Joseph F. Flynn, *Assistant Custodian*
Hugh F. Golden, *Assistant Custodian*
Augustus P. Macione, *Assistant Custodian*

SOUTH BRANCH

Mary E. Rogalski, *Branch Librarian*
Mary Cullen, *Library Assistant*
Helen T. Hegarty, *Library Assistant*
Cynthia Hubbard, *Library Assistant*
Joseph Yelverton, *Custodian*

WEST BRANCH

Beryl K. Strogney, *Branch Librarian*
Cheryl Brown, *Library Assistant*
Joan Cantor, *Library Assistant*
Lillian Tenney, *Library Assistant*
Sheryl Adler, *Page*
Angela Anastas, *Page*
James Connors, *Custodian*

This is the 125th annual report of the Peabody Institute for the year ending June 30, 1976; our last year as a private institution. The Governor and Legislature approved Chapter 197 of the Acts of 1976 reorganizing the main and branch libraries into a publicly owned system. This clears the way for a petition to the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts requesting permission to dissolve the corporation. Hopefully, the transfer can be completed by June of 1977.

This long awaited reorganization provides an opportunity to assess the progress we have made in the last few years.

In 1973, the library system was faced with three major goals: a rehabilitation and expansion of the physical plant, an increase in the operating budget and upgrading and reorganization of the staff. Our most critical need was for an expansion of all three buildings. Serious overcrowding made improvements in service impossible even when there was money in the budget to pay for additional services. The first expansion came at the West Branch Library, where a little-used basement was converted to a childrens' room. This work was completed in 1975. The next project was the expansion and remodeling of the South Branch Library into the office space vacated by the Engineering and Veterans' Services departments. With help from students at Peabody Vocational High School, this work began in 1975 and should be completed in early 1977 with the delivery of the last of the new furniture. These two projects have doubled the space available in both buildings. The final project remains the renovation of the main branch. Work is nearing completion on the restoration of the Eben Dale Sutton Room which is being funded by grants from the Peabody Historical Commission, the Peabody Community Development Administration and the Sutton Trust Fund. Work on the rest of the building project is awaiting funding, hopefully, in 1977.

We have also made progress in the area of the budget. In fiscal 1972 our per capita municipal appropriation was \$2.65, by fiscal 1977 that has increased to \$4.85. This is still far short of the \$6.00 required by the State and the \$7.00 to \$8.00 of our neighboring communities, but it does represent a substantial improvement. This increased funding has meant increased services. We have tripled the size of our reference collection, supplemented our backfiles of periodicals and begun a program of collection building to improve our services to students. The collection of large print titles has been expanded and collections have been added to both branches. With a \$4,000 Federal grant, we were able to purchase a delivery truck and make regular deliveries of large print books to old age housing projects and nursing homes. With another Federal grant, we added additional titles to our large print collection, including the large print editions of *The New York Times* and *Readers' Digest*. Our budget for books and other library materials has increased from approximately \$35,000 to more than \$70,000. We have purchased over 200 books for children and adults in Spanish and Portuguese.

Our programming for children and adults continues to be popular. We are providing story hours for over 200 children and we still have to turn many away. In October, students in the Early Childhood Education Program at Peabody High School began another story hour for pre-schoolers. A core collection of young adult titles for junior and senior high school students has been added to each branch. The adult Great Books program, under the direction of Mr. Stromer, has been a tremendous success.

All the buildings and all the books that money can buy will not provide good library service without a good staff. In 1972, only one staff member had a master's degree. By 1976, four employees had master's degrees and two more positions will be filled by professional staff by 1977. In the first two years that we had a professional librarian at the South Branch Library, circulation increased by 30%. By adding the position of technical services librarian, we have been able to make one person responsible for acquisition and processing of library materials and this has freed the rest of the staff from much of the clerical work allowing them to spend their time providing service to the public. Unfortunately, there is still an enormous work load in the processing department which cannot be handled by one person, requiring other staff to take time from their regular duties to help in the processing of books. Since it seems clear that an increase in clerical help is not feasible, the library is exploring the possibility of participating in a computer-based processing system. The CETA program has provided us with extra clerical help over the last two years which has kept us from being swamped by typing and processing, but this program will eventually end and without computer-assisted cataloging, we will not be able to keep up with the processing workload.

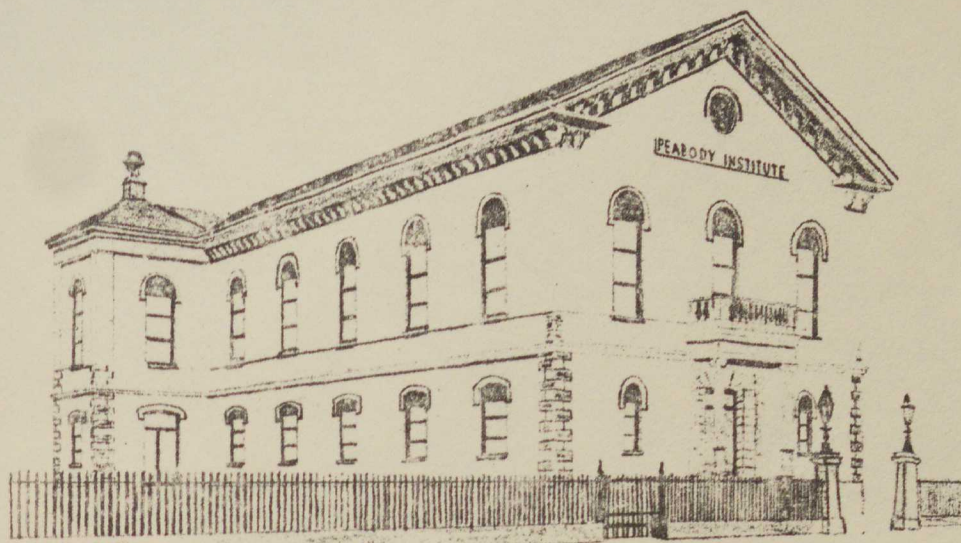
Despite occasional frustration with the seemingly endless delays in the renovation of the main library, we have made steady progress in the last few years and continued support from the Mayor and City Council have made significant improvements possible. The staff is looking forward to a new library which will allow us to make some major improvements in programs and services which we have had to hold in abeyance for the lack of adequate facilities.

Thanks again to the Lyceum and Library Committee and the Friends of the West Branch Library for their support in the last year. Special thanks to Mrs. Rachel Bochniak and Mrs. Ann Birkner for running the story hours at the West Branch and to the students from Veterans Memorial High School for running the Monday morning story hour at the main library.

Most importantly, my thanks to a very hard working and dedicated staff who shared many of the frustrations of working in this building but who have done an outstanding job in improving library service despite our handicaps. Without their help and cooperation, we could not have come this far.

STATISTICS July 1, 1975-June 30, 1976

	MAIN BRANCH	SOUTH BRANCH	WEST BRANCH	TOTAL
CIRCULATION				
Books	65,421	35,862	45,388	146,671
Periodicals	2,579	834	1,394	4,807
Pamphlets	200	144	---	344
Record Albums	1,710	---	1,029	2,739
Films & Filmstrips	75	---	---	75
Museum Passes	40	---	---	40
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>70,025</u>	<u>36,840</u>	<u>47,811</u>	<u>154,676</u>
ACQUISITIONS				
Books	1,268	939	1,898	4,105
Record Albums	4	---	43	47
Pamphlets	263	154	---	417
Films & Filmstrips	0	---	---	0
Posters	---	56	---	56
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,149</u>	<u>1,941</u>	<u>4,625</u>
WITHDRAWALS				
Books	4,242	602	582	5,426
Record Albums	0	---	16	16
Pamphlets	0	3	---	3
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>4,242</u>	<u>605</u>	<u>598</u>	<u>5,445</u>
HOLDINGS				
Books	39,334	9,642	15,402	64,378
Record Albums	1,024	---	217	1,241
Pamphlets	953	601	---	1,554
Microforms	5,903	---	---	5,903
Films & Filmstrips	11	---	---	11
Museum Passes	7	---	---	7
Posters	---	56	---	56



Peabody Institute Library 1976

2005.93.95.3



University of Toronto Library